

Monday, April 4, 2005

W-08. Workshop: Semiotic between neuro-myths and social romanticism - part I Semiotics and neuro-sciences

Chairperson(s): Hans Pfefferer-Wolf (Hannover, Germany)

08.30 - 10.00, Holiday Inn - Room 5

Semiotic is the science of sign processes which means processes like communication, discussion, measurement, research and construction of theories in which signs are involved. According to its own understanding semiotic as an object- and meta-science tries to establish links between different scientific disciplines. It is obvious to illustrate these links on "creating of myths" in scientific statements not having an empirical base. The workshop "Neuro-Myths and Social Romanticism" continues a complex tradition of critical distance towards neuro-sciences and social psychiatry. A brief survey about some controversial discussed claims will be given (S. Debus): first towards the neuro-sciences, which do not realize the "identity of the ego", as long as they refer to inadequate mechanical models, second towards social psychiatry which degrades the body to an epi-phenomenon and compensates the non-suitability of its social-psycho-models by pure social actionism. The following critical and self-critical contributions give a comment on the process of scientific creating of myth from different points of view: from a semiotic view (R. Posner), from a clinical-psychiatric view (A. Heinz), from a social-psychiatric view (H. Pfefferer-Wolf) and from a philosophical view (G. Schulte). The workshop will be held in 2 following parts, 90 minutes each: Workshop I: Semiotics and Neuro-Sciences Workshop II: Semiotics and Social Psychiatry

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W-12. Workshop: Mental health in Eastern Europe and the Balkans

Chairperson(s): George Christodoulou (Athens, Greece), Valery Krasnov (Moscow, Russia)

16.15 - 17.45, Holiday Inn - Room 5

V. Krasnov, V. Kontaxakis, V. Alevizos, D. Anagnostopoulos, N. Christodoulou. *Moscow Research Institute of Psychiatry, Moscow, Russia*
G. Christodoulou. *Hellenic Psychiatric Associa., Athens, Greece*

The rationale for the establishment of a special World Psychiatric Association Institutional Program for Eastern Europe and the Balkans is outlined. The activities of the Program on the Scientific and Leadership level are discussed and the Consensus Statement prepared by the Program for adoption by the WPA General Assembly in Cairo is presented. Accounts on the provision of mental health services and the associated specific problems in three characteristic countries of the area (Russia, Serbia and Montenegro and Greece) are presented.

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W-11. Workshop: New forms of cooperation between mental health care professionals and users of services

Chairperson(s): Michaela Amering (Wien, Austria), Stefan Priebe (London, United Kingdom)

16.15 - 17.45, Holiday Inn - Room 4

Major changes in medical and health care culture shape the development of new roles of mental health professionals and their clients. The empowerment paradigm, policy initiatives towards partnership, expert patient-hood, and shared-decision making exert their influence in various ways and to varying degrees. Old and new media give free access to formerly privileged information. Multidisciplinary teams search and find new definitions of professional identity, skills and responsibilities. New forms of patient-professional communication and cooperation take place in different new contexts of mental health care delivery. This symposium will tackle conceptual issues as well as present examples of novel research and practice approaches. The stage will be set by Stefan Priebe/UK with a talk on "Understanding and investigating the therapeutic relationship in psychiatry" with theoretical considerations as well as research data on this issue. Manfred Zaumseil from the University of Berlin will concentrate on the construct of shared-decision making and research on "advanced" forms of patient-professional relationships. Research results and new developments concerning crisis plans in the UK will be presented by Claire Henderson from the Institute of Psychiatry in London. Finally, Michaela Amering from Vienna will inform on research and implementation initiatives of advance directives including her research on consumers deliberating decisions on whether and how to make use of this tool in New York, USA. Diana Rose, Senior Lecturer and Co-ordinator of the Service User Research Enterprise (SURE) at the Institute of Psychiatry in London, will enrich the workshop as an expert discussant.

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

W-13. Workshop: AEP Human Rights Workshop (Under the auspices of the Secretary general of the council of Europe, Mr. Terry Davis)

Chairperson(s): Paul Cosyns (Edegem, Belgium)

08.30 - 10.00, Holiday Inn - Room 4

Objective: In the context of its long-standing collaboration with the Council of Europe, the AEP periodically organises Workshops dealing with the human rights and dignity of psychiatric patients.

Methods: The next AEP Human Rights Workshop will deal with "The role of psychiatrists in ensuring the respect of the rights of persons deprived of their liberty".

Results: The Workshop will be chaired by Prof. Paul Cosyns (University of Antwerp). The speakers will specifically focus on the need for European psychiatrists to actively participate in the